

Cerrillos Land Company

6200 Uptown Blvd. N.E., Suite 400
Box 27019
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125
505/881-3050

July 1, 1991

Mr. William J. Weis, III
Emergency Response Section
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105

RE: Bluewater Uranium Mining Sites; Prewitt, New Mexico; Response of
Santa Fe Pacific Mining to the General Notice Letter of Jerry Clifford

Dear Mr. Weis:

This letter responds on behalf of Santa Fe Pacific Mining ("SFPM") to the referenced correspondence, which SFPM received by certified mail on the afternoon of June 24, 1991. As I have indicated to you, we will cooperate fully with EPA's effort to gather information, but as we have discussed on June 27, 1991, I believe that your sending the letter to SFPM is in error because SFPM is not an owner or operator of the site under CERCLA.

SFPM is not an owner of the site because it is not in the chain of title and is a distinct company from Cerrillos Land Company, the current owner of the mineral estate. It is not an operator because it has not been involved with mining or operations at the site. In response to your request for information, you were provided on June 19, 1991 with material substantiating these facts. I understand that you did not have the opportunity to review this information before sending the General Notice Letter. If, after reviewing this information, you still believe that SFPM could be a potentially responsible party, please provide me with the information upon which you form this view, so that we can discuss it with you further.

Assuming that you agree that SFPM is the wrong addressee of the General Notice Letter, I request that you revoke that letter and direct it instead to Cerrillos Land Company. Recognizing your need for prompt consideration of this matter, and wishing to avoid unnecessary delay occasioned by the mailing of

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the additional letter, Cerrillos Land Company would promptly respond to such a letter. Cerrillos Land Company also would agree to continue the informal negotiations relating to site removal activities.

At your request, I am providing you with the name, address, and telephone number of the person at Cerrillos Land Company to whom further information should be directed:

Mr. George R. Wagner
President, Cerrillos Land Company
6200 Uptown Blvd., N.E.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110

If you have any further questions, please call me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tim Leftwich".

Tim Leftwich
Director-Environmental Quality

TL:pt

c: George R. Wagner